

# Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

April 2008

Volume 9 Issue 4

## Allen County ARES Meeting April 23

The Allen County ARES group will meet at the downtown Fort Wayne Allen County Public Library in meeting room C at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday April 23. This meeting will be extremely important for all ARES members to attend since the newly adopted Volunteer Emergency Communications Plan will be explained and copies will be given to members. This plan will cover membership eligibility, activation procedures, operations procedures, and message handling. This plan will govern all ARES and RACES operations in Allen County.

For ARES members who have completed FEMA courses IS-100 and IS-700, you will receive applications to join the newly organized Allen County RACES group. If you have not completed these courses, then you are not eligible for RACES membership. If you have not provided evidence of successful completion to ARES EC Joseph Lawrence, then bring copies of your FEMA course certificates to the meeting.

Also, this is another opportunity for ARES members to be photographed for their ARES credentials. If you missed the first meeting, then make certain to attend now. If you're interested in emergency communications and want to join ARES, then attend and complete a registration form at the meeting.

Amateur Radio public service isn't just a good idea, it's an obligation assumed with the privilege of an Amateur Radio

Service license. Help serve your community when communication emergencies occur. Join ARES Now!

Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ  
Allen County ARES EC  
K9RFZ (at) Yahoo.com



## ACARTS Spring Banquet

The Spring Banquet is the program for April. The banquet will be on April 15, 2008, at the Golden Corral Restaurant on Lima Road. [see map on pg. 4] The start time is 7:00 PM. We will be eating in the regular dining room. **Reservations will be required** as we need to let the restaurant know how many tables to hold for us. To make a reservation, send me a e-mail, or call 456-2012 and leave a message. The club will be paying for the cost of the meal for members on record as of March 1, 2008. The reservation deadline is April 12, 2008.



73,  
Vic, KA9LTV

Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN) and the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN).

Please send any articles, corrections, for sale notices, etc. to the editor, Victor Guess, WB9UZA, wb9uza at arrl.net. Please put "for newsletter" in the subject line. Text should be plain ASCII, graphics should be JPEG or GIF. For those computer impaired: snail mail to 3311 Sanibel Drive, Fort Wayne, IN, 46815-4755.

**Deadline for May issue is Friday, 4/25/08.**

**Please do NOT send anything in all caps!!**

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## Internet Home Pages:

**Fort Wayne Radio Club:**

<http://www.fortwayneradioclub.org/>  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FWRC/>

**ACARTS:** <http://www.acarts.com>

**Ft Wayne DX Asoc.:** <http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/>

**ARES:** [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen\\_Co\\_IN\\_ARES/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen_Co_IN_ARES/)

# Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

## Officers

### President:

Tom Baker  
N9TB 747-2714  
n9tb at arrl.net

### Vice President:

Woody Woodbury  
KC9CGN 632-4083  
woody922 at netzero.net

### Secretary:

Al Burke  
WB9SSE 637-1989  
woffermom at cs.com

### Treasurer:

Bob Streecher  
W8ST 672-9737  
w8st at arrl.net

### Communications

#### Manager:

Steve Nardin  
W9SAN 483-4039  
w9san at arrl.net

### Board of Directors

Carole Burke  
WB9RUS 637-1989  
wb9rus at comcast.net

Terry Bowman  
K9FMX 493-7177  
tjb Bowman at verizon.net

Clint Stedje  
KB9LOF 485-4067  
kb9lof at verizon.net

Vic Guess  
WB9UZA 485-7472  
wb9uza at arrl.net



## President's Corner



I want to thank everyone who came out to the March FWRC General meeting. We had a great turn out; there were around 45 people. We had at least 4 brand new Hams! The short

business portion was followed by a great presentation on PSK31 by Gary, KC9GGV.

The April General meeting will be held on Friday April 18<sup>th</sup>. We are back on the third Friday of the month. The topic for the April meeting will be Amateur Television (ATV). The Fort Wayne Radio Club maintains an ATV repeater at IPFW. It is an excellent resource, but underutilized. Jim, K9OMA, will be presenting the information you will need to know to get your live TV image on the air. I am set up with the receiver and hoping to get on ATV this year myself. This will be another informative presentation.

The May meeting will be the annual Spring Banquet. The Banquet date is Friday May 9<sup>th</sup>. We are back on the second Friday of the month because Dayton is the third Friday of the month. The banquet will be a carry-in and Carole, WB9RUS, will have further details. This is a great opportunity to really get to know your fellow club members.

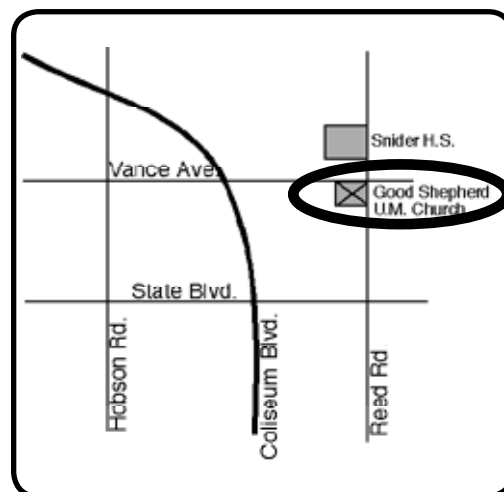
I mentioned in last month's article about the club's repeater expenses. We also talked about it at the March General meeting. As a result of the discussion and a donation can at the meeting, we received about \$45 in cash donations as well as the donation of a gently used switching supply. We will be installing the new, more efficient power supply and a new more efficient air conditioner at the shack. We are hopeful that those improvements will reduce our monthly electric bill. We will keep you informed.

In addition to the donations, please continue to encourage anyone that uses the repeaters to join the club to help support the repeater support and maintenance costs. And that goes for other area club repeaters as well; if you are using other area repeaters, please consider supporting those repeaters by joining the respective clubs. The more we know members in other clubs the better we will be able to work together in the future.

As we look further into the 2008 FWRC calendar we see that Field Day is not that far off. And June will be a busy month for us. On the weekend of June 14 we are planning on participating in the June VHF contest. We have been working that contest the last several years and it is a good warm up for Field Day. Friday June 20<sup>th</sup> will be the General Meeting with the final Field Day preparations. That is an important information download for anyone planning on participating in Field Day. Then the weekend of June 28<sup>th</sup> will be Field Day weekend.

If you are not active in the club it is not because of a lack of activities. Hope to see you at some of them very soon.

Tom / N9TB





## Fort Wayne Radio Club Minutes 14 March 2008

The March meeting of the Fort Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church on 14 March 2008 with President Tom Baker serving as the host. There were about 40 persons present.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Tom Baker started the meeting by calling all to attention for the pledge of allegiance.

There were no minutes from the December, January or February meetings as the activity at these events consisted of the (December) Christmas banquet, the (January) auction and the (February) joint FWRC/ACARTS Skywarn training meetings..

Bob Streeter presented the March Treasurer's report. As of 14 March 2008 the club had realized a year-to-date income of \$1,172.70, & year-to-date expenses of \$220.22. The club had cash on hand of \$92.32 and had \$6,851.05 in checking/savings. Bob also reported that we had 68 paid-up memberships for CY 2008 so far.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Tom Baker noted that there was a donation pot located next to the coffee pot intended to help finance new high efficiency switching mode power supplies for the Robison Park repeaters. The Robison Park repeater site (146.76 MHz, 146.91 MHz and 444.875 MHz) consumed an average of 286 KWH of energy per month during CY 2007 with a corresponding average monthly cost to the club treasury of about \$31.50 per month, (or \$377.00 for the full year). This means we had to allocate the dues derived from about 25 members just to defray the cost of providing power for the three Robison Park machines for CY 2007. Aside from encouraging ALL users of the club's repeaters to join the club and pay

dues, the Board of Directors is taking action to reduce the energy consumption at Robison Park by replacing the existing air conditioning unit with a modern high efficiency unit, installing a blower that can be used in lieu of the air conditioner unit in all but the hottest summer months, and replacing the existing 12 volt linear power supplies with high efficiency switching mode power supplies. These actions should help reduce the average monthly energy consumption (and hence expenses) of operating the Robison Park site and thus improve the club's cash flow concerns.

Tom Baker commented that a rebuild of the club web site was in process and its completion was a prime objective of the Board of Directors this year. He was asked about re-introducing the practice of the email notification to club members of the posting of new editions of the Ham News each month. He noted that many email addresses on file in the club database are no longer accurate because club members change their Internet provider but fail to notify the club.

Tom stated that near-term club meeting programs will include the following:

**April meeting;** Amateur Television Presentation by Jim Pliett which will include a demonstration of hardware and operation through the FWRC W9TE ATV repeater.

**May meeting;** the annual Spring Banquet. Note that the May meeting will occur on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday in May instead of the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**June meeting;** Field Day preparations. (The F.D. site will be at the Girl Scout camp again this year, and Field Day will occur the week-end of 28-29 June).

Steve Nardin announced that the club would sponsor a VHF QSO party two weeks before Field Day, (the weekend of 14-15 June) out at Larry Teminoff's estate as in the past. The site will operate on 6 meters, 2 meters and on UHF. Anyone interested should contact Steve or Tom Baker for details.

Phil Hooper announced he was hosting an open house at his ham radio store (Phil's Ham Radio Store, 512 Broadway, Suite 103, New Haven, Indiana, two doors north of the Post Office) next Saturday, 22 March, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Phil would be providing free coffee and donuts (except that Clint Stedge would be charged \$50.00 a donut for the 2<sup>nd</sup> through n<sup>th</sup> donut). Phil noted that he would have several rigs set up for

### **March FWRC new & renewing members**

K4RMU  
KB9DPF  
KC9ENU  
KC9NDG  
KC9NDL  
KQ9QY  
W8ST  
W9HT

The club officers extend a big "Thank You" to the above members for support of the club and its repeaters.

**continued on pg. 7**

# STATE OF THE ARTS

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

## ACARTS Officers

### President

Vic Berko, KA9LTV  
(260) 456-2012  
vberko at comcast.net

### Vice President

Dave Lindquist, W9LKH  
(260) 485-6135  
w9lkh at comcast.net

### Secretary

Robin Berrier, KB9PCF  
(260) 436-8126  
robinberrier at aol.com

### Treasurer

Howard Pletcher, N9ADS  
(260) 747-5252  
n9ads at juno.com

## ACARTS Managers

**Activities**  
OPEN

### Emergency Preparedness

Dan Soper, KB9NGM  
(260) 637-5787  
dan996 at aol.com

### Communications

Victor Guess, WB9UZA  
(260) 485-7472  
wb9uza at arrl.net

### Station Manager

Steven Berrier, KB9BGW  
(260) 436-8126  
sber34039 at aol.com

### Fundraising Manager

Jim Boyer, KB9IH  
(260) 489-6700  
kb9ih at arrl.net

### W9INX Trustee

Vic Berko, KA9LTV  
(260) 456-2012  
vberko at comcast.net

### Tech Committee

Emery McClendon, KB9IBW  
(260) 485-4120  
kb9ibw at juno.com

## President's Message



A reminder that the April general meeting is our Spring banquet. The date is April 15, 2008, and will be held at the Golden Corral Restaurant on Lima Road. The start time is 7:00 PM. The reservation deadline is Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, as we need to let the restaurant know how many tables to hold for us. We will be eating in the regular dining room. To make your reservation, send me an e-mail, or call 456-2012, and leave a message.

If you missed last month's meeting, you missed a good program. It was about Hallicrafters Corporation's role in developing and building the communications truck used in World War II. At that time everything was big, and used vacuum tubes. remember what those were. The truck pulled a trailer that housed a generator and the antennas. Compare that to today where the same radio equipment can be carried in a small backpack, and is satellite based. I would like to thank Ken, KB9YKU, for providing the video for the program. I could use some ideas for our May program. A future activity for our June meeting is a Wizards baseball game. A last chance game at the Castle before the team moves downtown. Stay tuned to the newsletter and web site for more details as they become available.

I know that spring is gradually getting here, but you cannot tell by the temperatures. I am seeing the tulips pushing through the ground and getting taller each day. One day there is nothing there, and then like magic, you may have 2 or 3 inches of green there. I saw a bunch of robins hopping around the yard turning their heads back and forth. They were not looking for worms, they were listening for them. It sounds strange but it is true. I got this bit of information from the people at the store where I buy my seed for my bird feeders. Spring also means that you will probably be doing some antenna work to repair the damage from winter storms, or to put up new antennas. Remember to follow then safety tips on installing antennas. We want to have you around for a long time.

Spring also means that it is time to prepare for our gardens and flower beds for those of us that do so each year. Hopefully it will be a better season for gardens than last year. It was too dry and hot, and my tomatoes and peppers had very little flavor. My strawberry patch had one real good batch, where I should have had berries through July. I have several varieties that would make this possible. I just had the one batch in early June. I have a lot of yard work to finish from last fall. The early snows and cold prevented me from getting that done last fall. Did anyone else have this problem last year? Well that is all I have for this month. Hope to see you at the banquet.

73,  
Vic, KA9LTV

## Meeting Schedule

**Spring Banquet:** April. 15, 7:00 PM. - Golden Corral, Lima Rd.

**Next Board Meeting:** May. 13, 7:30 PM All members are encouraged to attend.





## Annual Armed Forces Day Crossband Test Scheduled For May

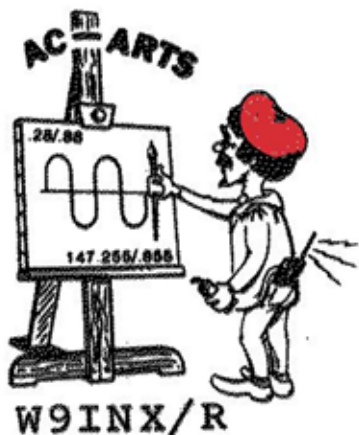


from *The ARRL Letter*: The Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard are co-sponsoring the annual Military/Amateur Radio communications tests in celebration of the 58th anniversary of Armed Forces Day (AFD).

Although the actual Armed Forces Day is celebrated on May 17, the AFD Military/Amateur Crossband Communications Test will be conducted on May 10 to prevent conflict with the Dayton Hamvention, scheduled for May 16-18.

The annual celebration features traditional military to amateur crossband communications SSB voice tests and copying the Secretary of Defense message via digital modes. These tests give Amateur Radio operators and short wave listeners an opportunity to demonstrate their individual technical skills and to receive recognition from the Secretary of Defense and/or the appropriate military radio station for their proven expertise. QSL cards will be provided to those stations making contact with the military stations. Special commemorative certificates will be awarded to anyone who receives and copies the digital Armed Forces Day message from the Secretary of Defense.

Look for schedules and frequencies of participating military stations to be published in May on the Army MARS Web site <<http://www.netcom.army.mil/MARS>>.



## March 2008 ACARTS Board Meeting Minutes



The meeting was called to order by Vic, KA-9LTV.

Vic announced that the March program would be a video about Hallicrafters Corporation's role in World War II in developing a communications truck. He added that the April meeting would be the annual spring banquet at Golden Corral.

Howard, N9ADS, stated that the Community Harvest Food Bank would get matching funds for donations made now. He made a motion to donate \$200.00 now instead of December. It was seconded by Jim, KB9IH, and passed by a voice vote.

Jim, KB9IH, said that the Memorial Coliseum was offering the use of a suite and 18 tickets to a Wizards baseball game. It was decided that Jim would reserve the suite for Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, and the baseball game would be the June meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

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## March 2008 ACARTS General Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Vic, KA9LTV.

Vic announced that the April meeting would be the annual spring banquet at Golden Corral. He asked if anyone had any suggestions for the May meeting and added that the June Meeting would be the Wizards baseball game, and that there would be no meetings in July.

After refreshments, a video was shown on Hallicrafters Corporation's role in World War II in developing and producing a communications truck for the Signal Corps.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

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## March ACARTS new & renewing members

KB9RH	The club officers extend a big "Thank
WB9MDS	You" to the above members for support
WB9PXL	of the club and its repeaters.

## Antenna Work in Winter -

**FWDXA**

**Ft Wayne DX Association**

**Carl Luetzelschwab  
K9LA**

When we lived in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, it was not uncommon for me to do antenna work in the winter. Usually a light jacket was all that was needed. Our move back north in the fall of 1988 reminded me that any antenna work in winter was likely to be of an "emergency" nature. One such "emergency" recently happened.

In mid January we enjoyed a couple days of spring-like weather. The temperature was in the upper 40s thanks to winds out of the south bringing up warmer air. Associated with this, though, would likely be a big cold front. Sure enough, the cold front passage brought a sharp decrease in temperature. Along with it came very strong winds out of the west and northwest.

Those very strong winds resulted in damage to my duoband 80 m/160 m wire antenna. Normally I would have waited until spring to fix it, but a DXpedition to Ducie Island (VP6DX - near Pitcairn Island in the Pacific) was coming up in February and I needed that entity on 160 m. So I decided this was an "emergency" and I had to fix it - or at least get an alternate antenna up for 160 m. I decided to put up a temporary inverted-vee.

The 60-foot vertical wire had an 80 m trap at the top, and a wire slanted back to the house for resonance on 160 m. The whole assembly was pulled up with a rope going through a pulley hanging from a limb of one of our 80-foot trees.

Both the slant wire and the vertical wire broke. Fortunately, though, the

slant wire got caught in some tree limbs. Thus the rope was still going through the pulley. Using a coat hanger bent into a corkscrew shape and hose-clamped to the end of a 20-foot aluminum pole, I managed to snag the end of the broken slant wire and pull it to the ground with the end of the down-coming rope still attached and still going through the pulley. I lucked out.

The inverted-vee went up quickly. On the Sunday I put it up, the temperature was around 34 degrees Fahrenheit with no wind - thus it wasn't bad working outside for an extended period. My boots kept my feet warm in the several inches of snow.

After several pruning trials, I ended up with an SWR of 1.2:1 at resonance (1820 KHz) as read on my MFJ-259B at the bottom of the coax coming down from the apex of the inverted-vee (about 65 ft). When I went inside and put power to it as a final check, the SWR shifted higher when I reached about 1000 Watts. Oh, oh - that's not supposed to happen. The problem was I had the wire on one half of the inverted-vee going through an eye bolt in a tree. The high amount of RF burned right through the wire insulation and the wire was in contact with the eye bolt - causing the shift to a higher SWR. A small piece of half-inch diameter hose around the wire as it went through the eye bolt resolved that problem.

So did I work the Ducie Island DXpedition on 160 m? I sure did. I got out of bed on February 13 at 4:00 AM and headed downstairs to the shack. VP6DX was on 80 m CW at that time, and I patiently waited until they moved to 160 m CW around 6:00 AM. It was relatively easy to work them, so it made the whole "antenna work in winter" effort worthwhile. As a side note, I also worked 5T5DC (Mauritania) on March 21 (another new one on 160 m) using the inverted-vee.



### General Class Upgrade Course Offered at IPFW

Following the success of the Technician Class licensing course this past Winter, Joseph Lawrence (K9RFZ) will be teaching a General Class license upgrade course through the Continuing Studies department of IPFW. "Up Your Frequency; Earn a General Class Ham License" will meet Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:00 - 8:45 p.m. for three consecutive weeks starting May 12. The course covers all theory, practical operating skills, and regulations required to pass the General Class exam. The course fee is \$40 and the class size is limited to the first 15 registrants, so contact the IPFW Division of Continuing Studies (260-481-6619) today if you are a licensed Technician wanting to upgrade.

**continued from pg. 3**

hams, (especially any new hams), to try out. For more information regarding Phil's store, see [www.philsham-radiostore.com](http://www.philsham-radiostore.com).

Joe Lawrence, KB9RFZ, Allen County EC announced an ARES Group VHF contest scheduled to occur on 5 April from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. It will operate FM simplex only and on any power source other than AC (household) mains. There will be two output power categories. Category one will encompass power outputs of 7 watts or less. Category two will encompass power outputs between 7 watts and 55 watts. Signal exchanges will include call signs and zip codes. Those interested should contact Joe for more details.

Jeff Dailey announced that there would be a Taylor University balloon launch carrying a cross-band repeater on Saturday 12 April from Upland, Indiana. [NOTE: This date has since been changed to 26 April.] The launch would occur between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. depending upon weather conditions. The balloon package is expected to reach an altitude of about 90,000 feet, remaining up for about two hours. The uplink will be on 146.46 MHz and the downlink will be on 446.025 MHz, both FM. The package will be identified as KB9ZNZ-11 for the purposes of APRS tracking.

Al Burke reported on the results of the March Foxhunt. Woody Woodbury served as the Fox and hid the little devil in a snow bank at the Cedar Canyons Elementary School up at the intersection of Cedar Canyons and Coldwater Roads. Three teams joined in the hunt. Team one was comprised of Jim & Annie Pliett and Carole & Al Burke. Team two consisted of Carl & Renee Thomas. Team three consisted of Steve Nardin. The weather for the Sunday Foxhunt was beautiful; it started at 1:30pm from the Off-Track Betting Parlor parking lot as usual. The team of Jim & Annie Pliett and Carole & Al Burke were the first to find the quarry. New Foxhunters Carl & Renee Thomas were the 2<sup>nd</sup> to find the Fox followed by Steve Nardin. After the hunt all three teams and the Fox proceeded to Bob Evans for a well deserved (and appreciated) dessert pig-out. Jim & Annie Pliett and Al & Carole Burke will serve as the fox for the April hunt which will occur on Sunday 6 April starting at 1:30 p.m. Al also noted that construction plans for a four element yagi that is useful during the on-foot phase of the Foxhunt had been prepared and would be posted in an upcoming publication of the Ham News and also on the club web page. The yagi is designed for the third harmonic of the Fox (439.290 MHz) and has a theoretical gain of 9.7 dBi and a front-to-back ratio of 17 dB.

Following the formal business meeting the 50-50 raffle was conducted. The \$19.00 pot was split between the club treasury and Jim Boyer, KB9IH.

After the 50-50 raffle, Gary Stebbins, KC9GGV gave an excellent presentation on digital modes focusing on RTTY and PSK-31. Gary's presentation included a demonstration of his equipment (hardware and software) in operation on 40 meters.

Respectfully submitted,  
Al Burke, WB9SSE

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**Belgian Satellite to Feature D-STAR Technology**

from *The ARRL Letter*: Students at the University de Liege in Belgium have built OUFTI-1 <<http://www.leodium.ulg.ac.be/cmsms/>>, a new Amateur Radio CubeSat featuring D-STAR digital-communication protocol that is used for control and telemetry. Amateur Radio operators from all over the world are able to listen in on the ON0ULG D-STAR repeater on 70 cm <<http://www.jfindu.net/dstarlh.aspx?rptr=ON0ULG>>; 2 meters will be operational soon. The objective of this nanosatellite project is to provide hands-on experience to students in the design, construction and control of complete satellite systems, ultimately serving as the basis for a variety of space experiments. The first satellite in the series, OUFTI-1, is a CubeSat -- a 10?10?10 cm cube weighing in at no more than one kilogram. -- Information provided by the OUFTI Team

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**K9LSB Estate Sale**

The family of Jack Forbing, K9LSB is planning an estate sale later in April. The exact date and time are still pending but it will probably be April 19<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. at Jack's QTH, 1416 Lakewood Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46819. Look for more information later on the club web sites including a listing of the equipment to be sold.



## Severe Weather Notes - How much did you learn?

Several local amateurs attended the 2008 Central Indiana Severe Weather Symposium on March 1. Allen County was very well represented, and in my opinion it further confirms our commitment to education. Something mentioned during the first presentation: severe weather is the greatest threat to the State of Indiana...even more than terrorism! Powerpoint presentations from the symposium can be downloaded from [www.w9nws.org](http://www.w9nws.org). If you are a new spotter, you might want to download and review "The Spectrum of Storms, From Ordinary to Super"; there is some good basic information.

The next all-day advanced training session in our area is scheduled for Saturday March 7, 2009 in Elkhart. At this time the agenda is still in the planning stages. I have been appointed to the program committee, and would like to hear from you. If you would like us to bring in a particular speaker, would like a specific topic to be discussed, or have any other suggestions about the training session, please e-mail me at [kb9rh \(at\) verizon.net](mailto:kb9rh@verizon.net). We are interested in your ideas! I'll keep providing updates on the advanced session as more details become available.

### The 90-day outlook for April-June forecasts normal temperatures and precipitation.

In addition to the basic training session presented by the North Webster office, I have attended basic sessions given by other NWS offices (Indianapolis and Cleveland), as well as the Central Indiana Symposium. I would like to pass along some important spotting tips from those sessions:

1. S.E.T. stands for Stress, Excitement, and Tension. These are all part of storm spotting, and can alter logic and reasoning abilities. Stay calm and think clearly.
2. Use visual clues to identify the type of storm you are dealing with. This will give you a good indication of what type of severe weather to expect, and is also related to safety.
3. High-precipitation supercells are common in Indiana because of the moisture from the Gulf of Mexico. Rain can be falling through the "rain-free" base, and can wrap itself around the tornado, making it very difficult to spot. Be careful!
4. The harder something is to identify, the less threatening it is to the storm.
5. When observing a funnel cloud or suspected tornado, watch the ground as much as you watch the rain-free base. When reporting, be specific about whether or not you are observing a debris cloud.
6. Be aware of distances! Research has shown that the actual distance to a reported weather condition is about twice the distance reported by a spotter.

Here's the annual quiz on severe weather. Most of these questions were taken from our local training session, but some are from the basic training sessions of other NWS offices (so don't feel bad if you don't answer all of these correctly!).

1. What is the difference between a comma echo and a bookend vortex?
2. The radar signature of a hook echo from a high-precipitation supercell is wider and is shaped more like a kidney. True or false?
3. An overshooting top is caused by a weak stable layer in the upper atmosphere and can be seen from just a few miles away. True or false?
4. Which has more potential to produce severe weather: a roll cloud or a shelf cloud?
5. For a certain severe weather condition, the National Weather Service asks that we do not report via E-Spotter, but if possible talk to a person. What is that condition?
6. What is the ratio of average annual wind damage days to days with a tornado?
7. The rotation in a tornado forms downward from the parent cloud; the rotation in a landspout begins at the surface. True or false?
8. You look up at the sky and see clouds at different levels moving in different directions. What does this indicate?
9. Is a tornado an updraft or downdraft?
10. If you can hear thunder, there is a possibility of being struck by lightning. True or false?

[Answers on pg. 9]

The severe weather season this year has not started out well. There have been a couple of tornado outbreaks (in the Southern Plains and Deep South) resulting in many deaths. As of March 25, 70 deaths have been reported from 20 different tornadoes; more than half of those deaths (37) occurred in mobile homes. The 70 deaths so far this year compares to the 3-year annual average of 62.

What can we expect this year in Indiana? The 90-day outlook for April-June forecasts normal temperatures and precipitation. John Kwiatkowski - Science and Operations Officer at NWS Indianapolis - has written an article on the relationship between La Nina and tornadoes in Indiana. He writes "Since 1950 Indiana has averaged 23 tornadoes a year. The 12 La Nina years since 1950 averaged 31 twisters. There is large variation in tornado frequency from year to year (2 to 69), making it tougher to draw conclusions. A physical relation between La Nina and Hoosier tornadoes is possible but unproven. Scientifically this all adds up to a strong possibility of an active tornado season in 2008, but no certainty."

I would encourage spotters to review their notes from any and all training sessions they have attended so we will all be ready when a watch is issued for our area. Also, please review net operating procedures and specific conditions to be reported. We are not interested in whether or not tornado sirens are sounding!

from Joel KB9RH

**quiz answers on pg. 9**



## Test Points

10-APR-2008

SPONSOR: GOSHEN ARC

TIME: 7:00 PM (WALK-INS ALLOWED)

CONTACT: PAUL F COREY

(574)262-4414

EMAIL: K9MV@ARRL.NET

VEC: ARRL/VEC

LOCATION: WWW.GOSHENARC.ORG/VE\_TESTING.

HTML

GREENCROFT BLVD

GREENCROFT RETIREMENTCOMMUNITY

HOMAN BUILDING

GOSHEN, IN 46525



26-APR-2008

SPONSOR: W5YI-VEC -- WHITLEY COUNTY ARC

TIME: 9:00 AM (WALK-INS ALLOWED)

CONTACT: ROGER L MC ENTARFER

(260)503-9008

EMAIL: N9QCL@ARRL.NET

VEC: W5YI VEC

LOCATION: PEABODY LIBRARY

1160 E STATE ROAD 205

COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725

28-JUN-2008

SPONSOR: UNSPONSORED

TIME: 2:00 PM (NO WALK-INS)

CONTACT: STEPHEN J KOUTS

(419)238-5560

VEC: ARRL/VEC

LOCATION: VAN WERT COUNTY EMA

1220 OLD LINCOLN HWY

BUSINESS US 30 EAST

HOMELAND SECURITY BUILDING

VAN WERT, OH 45891

10-JUL-2008

SPONSOR: GOSHEN ARC

TIME: 7:00 PM (WALK-INS ALLOWED)

CONTACT: PAUL F COREY

(574)262-4414

EMAIL: K9MV@ARRL.NET

VEC: ARRL/VEC

LOCATION: WWW.GOSHENARC.ORG/VE\_TESTING.

HTML

GREENCROFT BLVD

GREENCROFT RETIREMENTCOMMUNITY

HOMAN BUILDING

GOSHEN, IN 46525

## Severe Weather - cont'd. from pg. 8

Here are the answers:

1. The comma echo is the last stage in the evolution of a bow echo. A bookend vortex is on either end of the comma and may be a small "eddy" or rotation as a result of the faster-moving air in the comma. A small tornado may form in the northern bookend vortex.

2. True. The higher moisture content is reflected by the radar and therefore indicated by the wider image.

3. False. An overshooting top is caused by a very strong, intense updraft that pushes the air beyond the lower boundary of the stable layer. There is so much momentum the air cannot stop. An overshooting top can only be seen from greater distances (30 - 40+ miles) because it is located at the top of the thunderstorm.

4. Shelf cloud - by a wide margin.

5. Tornado

6. 7 to 1.

7. True

8. Shear.

9. Updraft.

10. True. "When the thunder roars, go indoors".

## 2008 Foxhunt Schedule

Apr 6 1:30  
May 5 6:30  
June 2 6:30  
July 7 6:30  
Aug 4 6:30  
Sept 8 6:30  
Oct 6 6:30  
Nov 2 1:30  
Dec - No Hunt



All foxhunts start at off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.

## Regional Hamfests

Date	Location	Contact Phone	URL or E-mail
19 Apr 2008	Highland, MI	810-632-5174	<a href="http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk">http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk</a>
20 Apr 2008	Peru, IN	765-453-9256	<a href="http://www.ncihamfest.com">http://www.ncihamfest.com</a>
16-18 May 2008	Dayton, OH	937-276-6930	<a href="http://www.hamvention.org">http://www.hamvention.org</a>
12 Jul 2008	Indianapolis, IN	317-261-6658	<a href="http://www.indyhamfest.com">http://www.indyhamfest.com</a>
20 Jul 2008	Van Wert, OH	419-238-2812	<a href="http://www.w8fy.org/">http://www.w8fy.org/</a>

For more complete information go to <http://www.acarts.com/hamfests.htm> or <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html#listing>



## The Foxhunt Chronicals March 2008

The second FWRC foxhunt for 2008 was held on 9<sup>th</sup> of March and occurred on a Sunday with cold but beautiful weather hinting of Spring. Once again three eager foxhunting teams appeared at the starting point, the Off Track Betting Parlor parking lot near Meijer's on Lima Rd. Team one consisted of Carl & Renee Thomas, WB9YBI/KC9KTG. Team two included Annie & Jim Pliett, WB9YYI/K9OMA, and Carole & Al Burke, WB9RUS/WB9SSE. Steve Nardin, W9SAN formed team three. Woody Woodbury, KC9CGN, served as the wily Fox and he started taunting the hunters at the appointed time transmitting on 146.43 MHz. Woody's first transmission quickly had the hunters charging north up Lima Rd. in response to the initial DF bearings taken.

Woody and the Fox were hidden in a snow drift on the Cedar Canyons Elementary school parking lot. The Pliett-Burke team was first on the scene and first to find the fox. The Thomas's were next to locate the fox followed by Steve Nardin.

Following the hunt, all of the team members plus the fox retired to Bob Evans for a well deserved reward of dessert and other goodies.

The Plietts and the Burkes will serve as the Fox for the April hunt which is planned to occur on Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> starting at 1:30 p.m. Mark it on your calendars and join in on the fun (and dessert afterwards).

Year to date team member points through March are as follows:

<b>HUNTER:</b>	K9OMA	KA9YYI	WB9SSE	WB9RUS	W9SAN	KC9CGN	WB9YBI	KC9KTG
<b>POINTS:</b>	5	5	5	5	2.5	4.5	2.5	2.5

73's, de WB9SSE

## Get Ready For World Amateur Radio Day On April 18



from *The ARRL Letter*: Each year on the anniversary of its founding, April 18, the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) marks World Amateur Radio Day. On this 83rd anniversary of its inaugural meeting in Paris, the IARU dedicates World Amateur Radio Day to the future of Amateur Radio with its theme, "Amateur Radio: A Foundation for Technical Knowledge."

It is no secret that many professionals in the field of radio, TV, communications and electronics have started their technical education as young radio amateurs. Although Amateur Radio has a different face nowadays -- Digital Communications, Voice over Internet Protocol, Satellite up- and downlinks and more -- it is even of greater value as a foundation for technical knowledge for youngsters. And much more -- it is and should be used as a unique attraction for future young radio amateurs.

World Amateur Radio Day provides an occasion to promote and publicize Amateur Radio. Amateur Radio clubs are encouraged to find suitable ways of celebrating World Amateur Radio Day. Many ways can be considered -- inviting youngsters to visit radio clubs, showing up on the air with a special call sign, organizing a station in a public area with media coverage or publicly honoring amateurs who have made significant contributions. Whatever method is chosen, clubs should

think about publishing a press release for the media, giving the background to World Amateur Radio Day and promoting the value of Amateur Radio as a foundation for a technical career.

The ARRL will be very pleased to hear how Amateur Radio clubs chose to celebrate World Amateur Radio Day. Share your stories and photos with us, so that they may be shared with the Amateur Radio community. E-mail your submissions to ARRL Affiliated Club/Mentor Program Supervisor Norm Fusaro, W3IZ <clubs@arrl.org>. Please be sure to put "World Amateur Radio Day" in the subject line. -- Information provided by IARU



## Membership Application for ☐ ACARTS - and/or - ☐ FWRC

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call sign: \_\_\_\_\_ License class: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP : \_\_\_\_\_-4 Phone #: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_ Unlisted? ☐ Yes

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member? ☐ Yes

(ARRL membership helps your club maintain affiliation.)

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. For FWRC a mailed paper newsletter is a \$12.00/yr. premium.

How would you like your newsletter delivered? ☐ by snail mail ☐ download from web site.

### A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues

Regular membership ☐ \$12.00 / year

Additional family members <sup>1</sup> ☐ \$6.00 / year

Student membership <sup>2</sup> ☐ \$6.00 / year

Associate membership <sup>3</sup> ☐ \$6.00 / year

(New Regular memberships are \$1/month)

### Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues

Regular membership ☐ \$15.00 / year

Family membership <sup>1</sup> ☐ \$21.00 / year

Student membership <sup>2</sup> ☐ \$6.00 / year

Associate membership <sup>3</sup> ☐ \$15.00 / year

Mailed newsletter premium ☐ \$12.00 / year

(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)

1. Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.

2. K-12 or full time student

3. unlicensed member

4. 9 digit ZIP code required for US bulk mail

Please attach a check (number \_\_\_\_\_) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

ACARTS  
PO Box 10342  
Fort Wayne, IN 46851

Fort Wayne Radio Club.  
PO Box 15127  
Fort Wayne, IN 46885

For dual membership, fill out both sides and send 2 checks to either club. **Payment by check is strongly encouraged!**

### **ACARTS Voice Repeaters**

146.880 (-) General use / Skywarn priority  
147.255 (+) General use / Autopatch priority\*  
443.800 (+) General use

(All repeaters have autopatch, but 88 has only speed dial emergency #'s.)

### **ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digipeaters)**

144.390 (s) APRS - wide

### **Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters**

Voice: 146.76 (-) General use  
146.94 (-) General use with autopatch  
146.91 (-) EchoLink connection repeater  
Node number 16636  
444.875 (+) General use  
ATV: 439.25 In, 910.250 Out, 144.340 Audio & control

### **Area Traffic Nets**

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

**IMO:** meets nightly at 6:30 p.m. on 146.88-

**Tri State Two Meter Net:** meets daily at 7 p.m. on 147.015+

**21 Repeater Group:** meets each Wednesday at 9 p.m. on 147.150

**Help and Swap Net:** Mondays at 9:00 p.m. 146.94(-)

**6 Meter SSB/AM Net:** Tuesdays at 8:00 pm EDT or EST on 50.580

MHz Net controls: K9RFZ & W9SAN

### **Miscellaneous Nets**

**Allen Co. ARES Training Net:** Tuesdays at 9:00 p.m. on the 146.94 W9TE repeater.

**Huntington ARES:** Saturday at 8:00 p.m. on 146.685

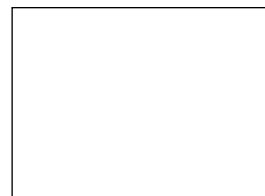
**Whitley Co. ARES:** Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. on 145.270 (Note 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)

**Whitley Co. Sunday:** Sundays at 7:45 p.m. on 444.550 +. (The 146.460 simplex crossbanding from both nets has been dropped.)

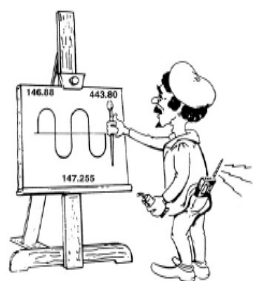
**160 Meter "No-Name" Net:** Sunday 8:00 p.m. Indiana time, 1966 kHz, Wednesday 3866 KHz. Everyone welcome! Contact Larry Temenoff, KB9OS for more info.

**Little Red Barn Net:** M, W, F @ 8:30 a.m. on 3820 kHz. Net control is K9ODF

Allen County HamNews  
PO BOX 10342  
FORT WAYNE, IN 46851



TO:



**W9INX/R**



## Activities Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Place
4/15/08	7:00 PM	ACARTS Spring Banquet	Golden Corral, Lima Rd.
4/18/08	7:00 PM	FWRC Meeting	GSUMC
4/25/08	---	deadline for May ACHN items	
4/29/08	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
5/5/08	6:30 PM	foxhunt off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.	
5/9/08	7:00 PM	FWRC Meeting	GSUMC
5/13/08	7:30 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Center
5/16-18/08		Dayton Hamfest	Dayton, OH
5/20/08	7:30 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Center
6/2/08	6:30 PM	foxhunt off track betting parking lot, Washington Ctr. & Lima Rds.	
6/6/08	---	deadline for June ACHN items	
6/10/08	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
6/10/08	7:30 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Center
6/17/08	7:30 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Salvation Army Center
6/20/08	7:00 PM	FWRC Meeting	GSUMC
6/28-29/08		FWRC Field Day	Girl scout Camp